

**LISTING OF CLAIMS**

Claim 1 (currently amended)

A painting tool comprising:

a flat pad having a paint absorbing portion comprising a first paint engaging side and a second side having an elongated coupling surface located thereon;

means mounted to the coupling surface having an upwardly projecting portion including a recessed socket therein;

a handle including a handle portion having a ball at one end to engage the recessed socket, an elongated intermediate portion, and an externally threaded surface at the other end; and,

mounting means securing the ball within the socket to permit rotation of the pad through 360 degrees and permitting the pad to be locked in position.

Claim 2 (cancelled)

Claim 3 (previously presented)

A painting tool in accordance with Claim 11 wherein:

the means mounted to the coupling surface includes an elongated portion having two sides including sloped parallel edge portions, said edge portions slidably engaging the extending side channel portions of the pad coupling surface and further including

a tab on one of said edge portions engaging the cutaway section of one side portion to lock the pad to the mounting means.

Claim 4 (cancelled)

Claim 5 (currently amended)

A painting tool in accordance with Claim 1 wherein:

the elongated intermediate handle portion includes one end having a portion integrally molded to the ball, a curved portion attached thereto, a flange extending outwardly from the curved portion and an outer elongated threaded portion extending from the flange at the other end.

Claim 6 (previously presented)

A painting tool in accordance with Claim 5 wherein:

the upwardly projecting portion includes external threads thereabout the mounting means comprises an internally threaded nut positioned about the curved handle portion and engaging the threads on the upwardly extending threaded portion with the recessed socket to secure the ball in the socket and further including a washer mounted between the nut and the threaded portion for locking purposes.

Claim 7 (currently amended)

A painting tool in accordance with Claim 5 wherein:

the second elongated member includes a contoured rubber-gripping member mounted over the second handle member and a threaded recess at the end thereof.

Claim 8 (withdrawn)

Claim 9 (previously presented)

A painting tool in accordance with Claim 4 wherein:

the ball includes a plurality of spaced parallel slots.

Claim 10 (previously presented)

A painting tool in accordance with Claim 1 wherein:

the upwardly projecting portion includes a threaded exterior, the mounting means further includes internal threads to mesh therewith, and a lock washer mounted therebetween.

**Claim 11 (currently amended)**

**A painting tool comprising:**

**a flat pad having a paint absorbing portion comprising a first paint engaging side and a second side having an elongated coupling surface mounted thereto;**

**means mounted to the coupling surface having an upwardly projecting portion including a recessed socket therein;**

**a handle including a handle portion having a ball at one end to engage the recessed socket, an elongated intermediate portion, and an externally threaded surface at the other end;**

**mounting means securing the ball within the socket to permit rotation of the pad through 360 degrees and permitting the pad to be locked in position; and,**

**the pad comprises an integral elongated body and wherein the coupling surface comprises a rigid substantially rectangular main body having parallel side portions, said side portions each having inwardly and upwardly extending portions forming a channel and one of said side portions having a cutaway section.**